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Letter dated 4 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you, and through you, to the esteemed members of the Security Council a statement issued by the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC) Partners Group on South Sudan at its third High-level Meeting in Khartoum on 31 July 2016 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Omer Dahab Fadl **Mohamed**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 4 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the third High-level Meeting of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission Partners Group on South Sudan

The Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC) Partners Group on South Sudan held its third High-level Meeting in Khartoum on 31 July 2016 and discussed the current situation in South Sudan and what the international community can do to convince the warring factions to earnestly implement the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.

Earlier this month, large-scale armed clashes broke out in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, and we have received reports today from the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring Mechanism (CTSAMM) of renewed fighting in areas around Juba and the Equatorias, and in other areas of South Sudan. This fighting violates the peace agreement, and we are deeply concerned that the situation in South Sudan could further deteriorate. The Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission Partners Group on South Sudan therefore:

- Condemns in the strongest terms the recent armed confrontation between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in Government and SPLA in Opposition. Operations targeting opposition leadership risk violence on an unprecedented scale and must stop immediately.
- Calls for a full investigation and accountability for those who bear responsibility for violations of the ceasefire and atrocities that have been committed. We are shocked and grieved by the loss of life and the atrocities that have been reported, including well-documented reports of attacks on civilians. The fighting has also caused deaths and injuries among the peacekeepers of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). We express our strongest condemnation regarding these attacks. Those responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and other violations of international law will be held accountable.
- Extends its condolences for the lives lost and sympathy to the injured and the affected families.
- Urges South Sudan's leaders to place the security and needs of South Sudan's people above their own political considerations. The legitimate rights of international partners in South Sudan should be respected and protected.
- Takes note of the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development and the African Union Summits, including with regard to the possibility of the deployment of a regional protection force.
- Urges the Government of South Sudan to accept assistance in creating a security environment in Juba that will facilitate an inclusive and political process and a return to the implementation of the peace agreement.
- Calls for the implementation of the security provisions of the peace agreement, including the immediate cantonment of forces throughout the country and implementation of the transitional security arrangements.

- Is deeply concerned about the humanitarian situation in South Sudan. The fighting in recent weeks has exacerbated what was already a near-catastrophic situation. South Sudan's economy is near collapse and the people of South Sudan cannot withstand continued conflict. We appeal to the international community to take the necessary steps to continue to address the dire humanitarian situation, and urge the Government of South Sudan to ensure full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian workers and timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations in need and put in place measures to provide protection and non-interference with humanitarian equipment and supplies. Most critically, we reiterate that the fighting must stop.

- Condemns in the strongest possible terms the continuing obstruction of the CTSAMM-Monitoring and Verification Teams and UNMISS from implementing their tasks and mandates, and calls upon the Government of South Sudan to issue the necessary orders to guarantee CTSAMM and UNMISS freedom of movement and to respect the status of forces agreement between South Sudan and UNMISS.

- Supports President Mogae's work, his mandate and the authority of JMEC, and will continue to give support to JMEC in discharging its duties. We will not tolerate threats to the independent functioning of JMEC as provided for by the peace agreement. We urge JMEC to fully utilize its mandate under the peace agreement to recommend corrective action in the event of non-implementation of the mandate and tasks of the Transitional Government of National Unity and to recommend remedial actions to IGAD, the African Union Peace and Security Council, and the United Nations Security Council. We recommend that the international community consider what measures might be necessary to ensure that the recommendations of JMEC are implemented and provide for its safety and ability to operate.

The JMEC Partners Group will stay in close contact through its representatives in Juba, and support JMEC and all parties concerned in South Sudan in their efforts to ensure effective implementation of the peace agreement and an end to the fighting that has placed all South Sudanese in danger.